

## **TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO**

In accordance with state and federal law, the District shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs in grades K-12.

The drug and alcohol education program shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of drug and alcohol use. It shall include special instruction as to the effects upon the human system; the emotional, psychological and social dangers of such use with emphasis on nonuse by school-age children and the illegal aspects of such use. The program also shall include information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs or alcohol.

The objectives of this program, as stated below, are rooted in the Committee's belief that prevention requires education, and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the District should be the education of children and youth on healthy decision-making:

- **To prevent, delay, and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among children and youth**
- **To increase students' understanding of the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use**
- **To teach students self-management skills, social skills, negotiation skills, and refusal skills that will help them make healthy decisions and avoid alcohol, tobacco, and drug use.**

The curriculum, instructional materials and outcomes used in this program shall be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the School Committee.

This policy shall be posted on the District's website and notice shall be provided to all students and parents in accordance with state law. Additionally, the District shall file a copy with DESE in accordance with the law in a manner requested by DESE.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:1

CROSS REFS.: GBEC – Drug-Free Workplace

JICH – Drug and Alcohol Use by Students

Revised: August 22, 2016